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More Engineers Needed In Future

Young men, looking for a useful, essential and profitable career over the years ahead, do not need to seek further than the field of engineering and science in the United States.

When Chairman Lewis L. Straus of the Atomic Energy Commission came home from the Geneva conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, he, like many public officials and scientists, was disturbed by the fact that Russia appears to be training more scientists and engineers than is America.

In discussing the matter he quoted a statement by Allen Dulles, director of central intelligence, to the effect that under present programs Russia in this decade will graduate 1,200,000 scientists and engineers, while the United States is expected to graduate only 900,000.

Under existing conditions in the world, this is a matter of importance. It is altogether probable, however, that the statistical figures on the number of scientists and engineers Russia will graduate over the decade as compared with this country does not necessarily mean that progress will be greater.

But it has to be taken into account, and it calls for measures to meet the Russian drive as to numbers and in keeping the educational level high.

It does seem that when Mr. Straus says that "our own colleges and universities are turning out only about half the number of engineers we require today," he is citing a practical fact of opportunity that cannot but have an appeal to youth in deciding on a career.

When Mr. Straus makes such a statement, he is talking from experience in an area in which he has firsthand knowledge. This is one way of arousing interest in youth which many of our educators think is an essential approach right now.